

The invention claimed is:

1. A method for transmitting a message packet from a first node to a second node in a data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:

5        establishing a first set of communication parameters prior to message packet transmission time in a communications adapter connected to a first one of said nodes;

      establishing a second set of communication parameters prior to message packet transmission time;

10       wherein said first and second sets of communication parameters are interpreted jointly and wherein together they define disparate areas of memory in said first node from which said message packet is assembled, whereby a single message packet is provided which contains data from disparate memory locations but which still preserves direct memory to memory transfer.